

British Attack Improves Flanders Line, McAdoo Removes All Railway Presidents

Many Rail Heads To Be Kept as U.S. Directors

Action Designed to Make the Operating Chiefs Responsible to McAdoo

One Executive Ousted for Cause

Huntington Is Charged With Disobedience; 2 Minor Regional Districts Fixed

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Every railroad president in the United States was relieved from active duty as executive manager of his road to-day by Director General McAdoo, who will appoint a Federal director for each road, responsible only to the railroad administration. In many cases the president of the road may be named Federal director.

To safeguard the interests of stockholders and maintain the individuality of each railway Federal directors, whenever possible, will be appointed from among the operating officers of the property, the Director General announced. This will avoid disrupting any road's working organization unnecessarily.

Two New Operating Districts

As another step in the reorganization of railroad management the Director General ordered the creation of two new operating districts—the Allegheny region, consisting of the principal trunk lines east of Pittsburgh, excluding the New York Central, managed by C. H. Markham, now regional director for the South, and the Potomac region, consisting of the east and west trunk lines terminating at Hampton Roads.

It was explained to-night that a large proportion of present railway presidents will be named to manage their own properties, particularly where the president actually is the most active operating officer, but in all these cases the president will be required to resign their official positions with the companies and to become exclusive representatives of the United States railroad administration.

Consequently their salaries will be paid by the government and they can receive no pay from the railway corporation. As an indication of what salaries they may expect, it became known to-night that most of Mr. McAdoo's principal assistants at the railroad administration will receive more than \$25,000 a year. For most of them, what they will receive will be much less than they received as officers or executives of railroads under private management. In this connection it was noted that Mr. McAdoo as Secretary of the Treasury receives the usual cabinet member's salary of \$12,000 a year and is paid nothing as Director General of Railroads.

McAdoo's New Policy

The Director General's announcement of the new policy, dictated from his sick-room at home, was as follows: "In view of the direct responsibility for the operation of the railroads of the country placed upon Director General McAdoo by the act of Congress and by the proclamation of the President, he has been unable to escape the conclusion that it will be advisable to place in direct charge of each property for operating purposes a representative to be known as the Federal manager, who will report to the regional director. As far as practicable, this Federal manager will be chosen from the operating officers of the particular property, who are therefore entirely familiar with its employees and with its conditions.

To Keep Road's Identity

"Except so far as may be necessary to meet the emergency conditions which compel the government to take control of the railroads, the Federal manager of each railroad will endeavor to avail himself to the fullest extent of the advantages incident to the operation of the particular railroad as a unit and the preservation of its identity. This is believed to be of essential importance not only to secure best results during the period of government control, but also to give the greatest degree of reassurance to the officers and employees of the railroad careers upon which they have entered will not be narrowed, but, if anything, will be broadened, and to give the greatest possible reassurance to the stockholders that their interests in the properties will be respected and that nothing will be needlessly done to have even the appearance of impairing their just rights.

While in this way the responsibility for the operation of the property will be directly to the regional directors and not to the boards of directors, it is the purpose of the Director General to accord to the boards of directors and their representatives the fullest opportunity to keep advised as to the operation and improvement of the properties and to maintain with the Director General and the regional directors the fullest interchange of views as to what is in the best interest of the country.

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Allies and Neutrals Lost 305,102 Tons Of Ships in April

(By The United Press)
LONDON, May 21.—Allied and neutral merchant ships lost during April totaled 84,393 tons, the Admiralty announced to-day. During the same period the loss in British tonnage was 220,709.

This is the first bulletin issued since the announcement of April 24 that monthly reports would be substituted for weekly announcements of losses. At that time the total tonnage losses since the beginning of unrestricted submarine war was given as follows:

Quarter ending—	British shipping—	Neutral and Allied shipping—
March, 1917.....	311,840	1,619,373
June, 1917.....	1,381,370	2,236,334
September, 1917.....	863,938	1,494,473
December, 1917.....	782,880	1,272,843
March, 1918.....	647,576	1,123,510

The figures issued yesterday show a decrease in the British losses and a pronounced drop in the Allied and neutral loss.

Drys Win Skirmish In House to Put Ban On Wine and Beer

Vote 69 to 58 to Force Wilson to Stop Use of Food Grain for Liquor

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Prohibition advocates in the House to-day won the first skirmish in a fight to force President Wilson to exercise his wartime authority to prohibit the manufacture of light wines and beers, as well as whiskey, the distilling of which ceased last September under a Presidential proclamation.

Sitting as a committee of the whole, the House adopted, 69 to 58, an amendment to the food production bill prohibiting the expenditure of any part of the \$11,000,000 the measure carries up to the President issues a proclamation prohibiting the use of foodstuffs in the manufacture of intoxicating liquor of any form. The amendment, offered by Representative Randall (Prohibitionist), of California, will come to a record vote in the House before final passage of the bill, and opponents expect to defeat it then.

Don't Hurry Wilson Is Plea
Representative Candler, of Mississippi, Democrat, in charge of the bill, and others vigorously opposed the Randall amendment.

"You cannot hurry the President into issuing that proclamation by adopting this amendment," Mr. Candler said. "I am convinced the President will issue the proclamation whenever he believes it is necessary to do so to conserve the supply of food."

Representative Randall was joined in support of his amendment by Representatives Caraway, of Arkansas, Democrat, and Mondell, of Wyoming, Republican.

"With an intensive campaign of spying into flour barrels and sugar bowls of every family in America," said Mr. Randall, "the wholesale loss of food through the operation of the breweries, nine-tenths of whose product is German-owned and made, becomes a positive scandal."

Big Wheat Crop Predicted
Under an act of August 10, 1917, the President was authorized to prohibit by proclamation the use of foods in the manufacture of malt or vinous liquors when in his judgment he believes such action is necessary for the conservation of food.

Prospects of a heavy wheat crop this year justify hope that rationing in this country may be curtailed materially next year. Food Administrator Hoover today told the conference of the National Bakers' Service Board.

A charge that American bakers have earned more than a reasonable return in the past six months was made by J. W. Sullivan, speaking for the American Federation of Labor, and denied by Henry W. Stude, of Texas, president of the National Association of Bakers.

Americans Capture Boches in Lorraine

Artillery Active in This Sector and in the Woivre

Captain Hall Found In a German Hospital

(By The Associated Press)
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 21.—Captain James Norman Hall, of Colfax, Iowa, who has been missing since May 7, is wounded and a prisoner in a German hospital. Captain Hall, who is attached to the American aviation corps, disappeared after an aerial engagement over the German lines.

City's Gift to Red Cross Is \$8,280,317

\$3,780,317 Raised in Manhattan on Second Day of Drive, Despite Rain

Over \$25,000,000 Subscribed in U. S.

Three States Already "Over the Top" and Many Are Not Heard From

The Kaiser's frequent boasts about his close association with the heavenly powers seemed to be justified in a measure yesterday by a downpour of rain that kept the city's total subscription for the day to the second Red Cross war fund down to \$3,780,317.39. This does not include money collected in the Bronx and on Staten Island, and as a result the showing is some \$50,000 under the mark that should have been

Nation-Wide Fight Against Hearst Asked

Security League Bulletin Will Urge Patriotic Communities to Bar Papers

The National Security League sent to the printer yesterday a bulletin containing a resolution of the Summit (N. J.) branch which calls upon all patriotic communities to exclude Hearst newspapers from their midst. This bulletin will be circulated all over the United States.

The resolution was passed for the purpose of spreading the sentiment against Hearst newspapers throughout the nation, just as it has spread in New York and nearby states, notably New Jersey, since "The New York American" deleted the prayer for victory from the President's Memorial Day message.

The National Security League has 281 branch organizations. Its membership runs into the hundreds of thousands. As it happens, it has particularly strong branches in the cities where Hearst publishes his various newspapers. In the past the league has been one of the leading factors in the fight for the suppression of Ger-

German-Irish Plot Hatched In America

U. S. Secret Service Revelations Led to Sinn Féin Round-Up

Foe Tried to Incite Other Nationalities

Financed Agitation Among Negroes and "Oppressed" Slav Races

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Disclosure to-day that the government has gathered evidence in this country of conspiracies between Irish Sinn Féin leaders and German agents to precipitate a rebellion in Ireland was followed by announcement that government agents have uncovered similar German intrigue with other nationalistic groups in the United States.

German money, it was said, has been

Americans Smash 32 Boche Guns

By Wilbur Forrest
(Special Cable to The Tribune)

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES IN PICARDY, May 21.—Since the Americans took over a Picardy sector the American batteries have knocked out at least thirty-two enemy cannon through excellent counter battery work.

The record shows that in addition several enemy batteries of four guns each have been forced to pull out of their positions and withdraw across a small stream in the enemy's rear.

Peace With 200,000 Men Italy Sought Form 1st U. S. Army in Field By Austria

Concessions, Approved by Germany, Said to Have Been Offered

By C. W. Gilbert

WASHINGTON, May 21.—It is reported in diplomatic circles here that Austria recently offered concessions to Italy with a view to obtaining a separate peace. Italy is said to have refused to consider the proposals. It is understood that Austria was moved by her internal difficulties to make the overtures, especially by the trouble she is having with her Slavic subject peoples.

Germany is reported to have brought pressure to bear upon Austria to make what she regarded adequate concessions to Italy, for Germany wished to eliminate Italy from the war and moreover to relieve the straits within Austria herself.

Austria as an ally is fast becoming a burden rather than an aid to Germany, for the task of sustaining her as combatant falls upon Berlin. Since Italy reached an agreement with the Jugo-Slavs Austria's future has become precarious and the need of obtaining peace with Italy which will prevent her fomenting revolution among the Slavs more imperative.

The policy of supporting the separatist ambitions of the Czechs and Jugo-Slavs has evidently become more definite. A short time ago all that existed was an agreement in London between the representatives of a large element in Italy and agents of the Jugo-Slavs. This agreement was unofficial. An Italian authority here in Washington said to-day with regard to the peace proposals of Austria:

"Italy will not listen to any proposal of this kind, and be receptive to any such approach. She will go on with her military operations and at the same time with her political work among the oppressed nationalities of Eastern Europe, with whom a complete agreement has been reached which is bound to bear important results in a short time."

Complete Understanding Reached
It is not possible now to reveal the basis of the agreements between Italy and the Czechs and Slovaks and Jugo-Slavs on the one hand, and the representatives of a large element in Italy and agents of the Jugo-Slavs on the other, as it would involve a revelation of the plans of action. The fact is, the understanding is complete on every point, and the Eastern Adriatic and Balkan problems will not in the future be the source of constant disagreements that they have been in the past.

Italy feels deeply the sympathy that always has attached her to the Slavic races. It is a matter of history that all the European nations in Italy were the first to establish friendly relations with Russia, at that time the recognized spokesman of all the Slavic nationalities. It is also a matter of history that even during the years of the Triple Alliance Italy prevented alone the realization of the plans of aggression against Serbia and Montenegro.

Italy's attitude in this regard has not dictated solely by the necessity of preventing the extension of the Teutonic power into Southeastern Europe, but primarily by the sentiment that the Eastern Adriatic problem resembled in many respects the Italian problem prior to 1866.

Italy in Role of Champion

"Italy stands to-day as she has stood for the past thirty years—as the champion of the nationalities threatened by the pan-Germanic plan of aggression and expansion. This role Italy shared with Russia until the new status was established in the great Slav nation. Since, however, the Bolshevik government abandoned the protection of the Slavic peoples, this rôle of championship of their rights and interests rests upon Italy."

The agreement reached with the Slavic nationalities, oppressed or threatened with oppression by Austria-Hungary and Germany, has been the result of the clear understanding Italy has had and has of the Balkan problem. The work of convincing the Slavic peoples of the sincerity of the Italian policy in good faith has succeeded at last. The Rome agreement was therefore be considered for that reason one of the hardest blows delivered against the Teutonic powers since the war started.

This statement implies that the Italian government has entered into a formal agreement with the various groups of Austrian Slavs, and that the policy of disrupting of Austria is a definite one, at least on the part of Italy. It may well be the policy of the whole Entente to-day, for it is recalled that the original agreement with the Jugo-Slavs, the so-called Torre agreement, was drafted in London.

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Haig's New Position at Merville Is Held Firmly

German Counter Blow in Force on 1,200-Yard Front Is Broken Up

Enemy Salient Is Wiped Out

French Also Repulse Foe's Attempt to Recover Ground Near Bailleul

The British pincers closed on a small German salient in the Flanders sector on Monday and established a new British defence line northwest of Merville, in the valley of the Lys. Two German attempts to retrieve the loss were thrown back with heavy loss.

The German line extended as a wedge, pointing to the Nieppe Forest. Haig's men attacked both angles at the base of the wedge simultaneously and drove straight through it. A number of prisoners and machine guns were captured during the course of the operation.

The enemy promptly counter attacked, but without sufficient organization, and was as promptly thrown back. Early yesterday morning an intense fire from the German guns indicated another assault, which was delivered in force on a front of 1,200 yards. Though the German infantry reached the British trenches at two points, the attack was effectively shattered and the line remained intact.

North of Bailleul, near the western end of the hilly Flanders front southwest of Ypres, the Germans struck twice at the French line yesterday, but both attacks broke down. This is probably another enemy attempt to regain positions lost to the French when they pushed the Germans back over a two-mile front in this region on Monday.

Along the Western front from Meteren, at the head of the Armentières salient, to the Avre River, on the front before Amiens, the guns have kept up their furious thunder. The activity has been most marked along the Somme front, where the Anglo-French batteries are bombarding the enemy lines to prevent effective preparations for a new drive.

Correspondents at the front emphasize the success of the French in their recent advance toward the western slopes of Mount Kemmel and of the Australians before Morlancourt, on the Somme. For some time the Germans have seemed unable to prevent the Allies from improving their defenses against the great expected drive.

The German official statement of yesterday admitted the gains of the French on Kemmel after the attack on the long front between Dranoutre and Voormezele, but declared that the main thrust broke down "with sanguinary losses." Prisoners captured by the Germans, according to Berlin, reported that British reserves were supporting the French infantry.

British Advance Their Line Near Merville; Repel Counter Blow

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, May 21.—Further improvement of the defending line was achieved by the British in their local attack last night, just northeast of Merville, where they carried out a successful operation which advanced their positions along a front of 600 yards. The effect was to reduce a salient which bulged into their territory. Some prisoners were taken in the engagement, which, of course, falls in the category of minor attacks.

The enemy counter attacked, but his efforts were broken up by artillery fire. The opposing forces northeast of

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